IN THE CLAIMS:

14. (currently amended) A hybrid protein comprising one antigen-binding antibody fragment covalently linked to an albumin molecule, wherein the antibody fragment and albumin are indirectly linked by a bridging molecule of from around 10Å to around 20 Å in length between the thiol groups of a cysteine residue present in the antibody and another present in the albumin at position 34.

15. (cancelled)

16. (previously presented) A hybrid protein according to Claim 15 wherein the bridging molecule is an optionally substituted hexylene chain.

17. (previously presented) A hybrid protein according to Claim 14 wherein the antibody fragment is a monovalent Fab fragment optionally containing one or more additional amino acids attached to the C-terminus of the CH1 domain.

18. (previously presented) A hybrid protein according to Claim 17 wherein the antibody fragment is a monovalent Fab or Fab' fragment.

19. (previously presented) A hybrid protein according to Claim 14 covalently linked to one or more effector or reporter groups.

20. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising of a hybrid protein according to Claim 14 together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, diluents or carriers.

21. (new) A hybrid protein consisting of one antigen-binding antibody fragment covalently linked to an albumin molecule, wherein the antibody fragment and albumin

are indirectly linked by a bridging molecule of from around 10Å to around 20Å in length between the thiol groups of a cysteine residue present in the antibody and another present in the albumin at position 34 wherein the antibody fragment and/or the bridging molecule are optionally linked to one or more effector or reporter groups.

22. (new) A hybrid protein consisting of one antigen-binding antibody fragment covalently linked to an albumin molecule, wherein the antibody fragment and albumin are indirectly linked by a bridging molecule of from around 10Å to around 20 Å in length between the thiol groups of a cysteine residue present in the antibody and another present in the albumin at position 34.